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# Dahlia News

Published By Frank Payne Farms, Shawnee, Kansas

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NO. I

## "How We Grow Big Dahlias"

It has been said that no home is complete without a bed of dahlias and this is really true. They not only add beauty to the home but also do so with the least amount of effort. The man of the house will appreciate the fact that dahlias will not become a burden on his spare time. Just a little cultivating now and then will keep the bed in the best of condition.

### Easy to Grow

Probably more amateurs in the central states fail with dahlias than with any other flower, due to lack of knowledge how to give them proper care? Yet they are as easily grown as corn or potatoes if a few simple directions are followed carefully.

Dahlias should not be planted until late in the spring, until all danger of frost is past. They can be successfully planted even as late as June 25th. Dahlias are a fall flower, not a summer one. If planted too early they try to bloom in the hot summer spending most of their strength in doing so. That would cause the blooms to blast. The best flowers come from a quick, succulent growth helped by cool fall weather and heavy dews. Never plant dahlias in the shade of trees or buildings. They love sunshine and must have plenty of it to gain full growth and fine blooms.

### Follow These Simple Instructions

The large clumps of tubers dug in the fall should not be divided until you are ready to plant. Then **OF THE PARENT STOCK IS LEFT ON EACH TUBER.** (The sprouts come from the old parent stock and not from the tuber.) **ONLY ONE TUBER** should be planted in a hole six inches deep. **PLACE TUBER IN THE HOLE ON ITS SIDE,** never stand on end. Do not put any fertilizer or manure about tuber. Most dahlias like a poor soil. If too fertile they will go to tops at the expense of your flowers.

Plant your tubers two feet apart each way. When the growth is four inches high, pinch out center of the plant. This will cause the plant to branch out at base making a short stocky bush, shading the ground completely, conserving the moisture, also protecting the plant from blowing over in storms. **DON'T WATER DAHLIAS AT ANY TIME.** (We wish that could be printed in big boxcar type so all folks could see and remember it.) Every time you want to water them, **DONT DO IT.** Go out and hoe them instead. Furthermore, all during the summer from time plant is up until they start to bloom, go out and hoe, hoe, HOE, stirring the top surface soil after each rain. Never allow any weeds to grow near them or close to plant.

### Single Order 100,000 Bulbs

The Frank Payne Farms feel a great pride in the fact that a St. Louis firm ordered 100,000 bulbs in a single order for distribution all over the United States. Three freight cars were necessary to fill this big order.

The interesting point is that the large order was secured in competition with Eastern growers. The Kansas product was chosen in preference to the others and is just another example of what can be done on Kansas soil.

In selecting bulbs from the Payne Farms you have the confidence of the large buyers who also select the same stock. This is your assurance that you are getting as good as can be had.

"Say It With Flowers"



Mr. Frank Payne of Shawnee, Kansas, among his favorite flowers (The large dahlias at right are Mrs. I. D. Ver Warner Variety)

## Dahlia Growing In Middle West to Receive Study

### Experimental Station to Be Conducted at K. S. A. C.

An experimental station to determine the variety of dahlias best suited to the soil and climate of Kansas and Missouri is to be established this spring on the campus of the Kansas State Agricultural college, Manhattan, with bulbs furnished by Frank Payne, floriculturist and proprietor of the Payne Dahlia Farm near Shawnee.

For more than three years Mr. Payne has been testing more than 1,000 varieties of flower to determine the variety best suited for the gardens of Kansas City.

"The Kansas agricultural school," Mr. Payne said, "is conducting a campaign for beautification of farm homes. Walter Balch, assistant professor of floriculture of the school will make the dahlia test in order to recommend especially to the farmers the kinds which will give best results in rural gardens."

### Bulletin to Be Published

"A bulletin giving the results of the test is to be prepared by the school at the end of the growing season next fall for distribution to any person interested in the growing of flowers."

Mr. Payne said he would give the school 1,000 bulbs comprising 150 varieties to make the test. The bulbs will be planted on a quarter-acre plot as a part of the landscaping of the college campus.

Dahlias originated in the mountains of Mexico. Mr. Payne said in discussing his favorite subject. When Spanish explorers found them they believed they had discovered a new variety of potato. Ship loads of the bulbs were sent to Europe. In Holland they were cultivated as food, but the taste proved to be unpleasant and the bulbs not nutritious.

### Developed by Swede

A Swedish botanist, Andrew Dahl, in 1795 took an interest in the bulbs to produce flowers rather than food. Since his early experiments more than 7,000 varieties of dahlias have been developed. They now are grown in virtually every country and, according to Mr. Payne, are one of the most popular garden flowers in America.

Mr. Payne last year grew more than 500,000 dahlia bulbs. He plans to double the output of his dahlia farm this year.—The Journal Post.

## Electric Lighted Show Garden

For the convenience of those who are unable to visit the farm in day time, Mr. Payne has arranged a special show garden including all of the popular and rare varieties of Dahlias. This special garden is electric lighted and in the night time the Dahlias—the queen of autumn flowers, stand forth majestically in all their glory.

One cannot realize the marvelous beauty that is stored away in this little garden spot. It is just as if you had dropped into another world. Flowers nod this way and that in the breeze. You immediately become entranced with the splendor of the sight.

Although Mr. Payne grows Peonies, Glads, Tulips and numerous other flowers, the main bloom of the Payne farm is the Dahlia. We speak of this as one flower when in reality it is many. No other flower family offers such a wide selection of colors, sizes and styles.

When one thinks of a farm they immediately think of corn, wheat, and things of that sort. You picture in your mind acre after acre of these growing things. Now carry that same mental picture but instead of corn or wheat, think of flowers. Think particularly of Dahlias.

Can you imagine a farm filled with Dahlias growing right on the edge of Kansas City—almost within the city limits. It is hard to believe that a beauty spot of this kind could exist right at the door of a big city, but Mr. Payne actually has forty acres of flowers under cultivation.

Thousands of people have already seen the rich display. The next time you take the family out for a ride plan to go in the direction of Shawnee. Drive right in and make yourself at home. Ample parking space is provided in the Payne picnic grounds just beyond the display garden. There is no charge for admission and no charge for parking.

### Frank Payne's Dahlia Entries Win At Fair

All of the dahlia entries made by Frank Payne, Shawnee, Kas., in the Kansas free fair in Topeka this week have been awarded first place. This is the third consecutive year Mr. Payne has won all the blue ribbons in the dahlia class.

His Gladioli entries also placed well, nine of them winning 1st place and ten receiving second.

Mr. Payne departed for Topeka from his dahlia farm, one-half mile south of Shawnee, Tuesday morning with a truck load of dahlias.—Journal Post.

## Kansas Dahlias Win Prize on Pacific Coast

### Rushed by Plane

For years we have been told about the wonderful flowers that grew in California and the entire Pacific coast. They are wonderful, but it took Frank Payne of the Payne Farms of Shawnee to show them what Kansas dahlias looked like.

Mr. Payne entered a mixed basket of dahlias in the San Leandro flower show which is the second largest of the Pacific flower exhibits and is International in scope in that dahlias come from all over the United States and Canada. This basket won the second prize in Class Number 104 of the Livingston Pharmacy Trophy.

### Sent by Western Air Express

The flowers were cut early on a Friday morning and left Kansas City that same morning on the big Western Air Express plane. A special box was made as a container. Special connection was made by plane at Bakersfield, California, where the flowers were taken to San Francisco. From there they were taken by motor to San Leandro for the big show.

Connections were timed like clock work and the flowers arrived in excellent condition. Great surprise was created by the display and considerable comment was made. Some of the folks on the Coast could not believe that dahlias of such great beauty could be grown way out in the state of Kansas.

### Great Victory for Payne Farms

This is of course a wonderful victory for the Frank Payne Farms. It shows what can be done in this climate and how our flowers in this section of the country compare with those in sections which are supposed to have the best growing conditions.

Beyond this, however, is the victory of aviation in the transportation of cut flowers. Flower shows in the future will reach out to much greater distance. In the past many entries were made impossible because of the distance and the fact that the cut flowers would not keep until the day of the exhibit. Now through the use of air transportation growers in all parts of the country can compete in most any event desired.

### Dahlias

I heard two sermons Sunday by a very learned man  
And I liked them while I listened,  
But try the best I can  
No single thought do I recall,  
For in the twilight gloom  
(The quiet vesper-twilight of a Sabbath afternoon)  
I saw a field of dahlias in all their autumn bloom. . .  
Rows and rows of dahlias shining through the gloom.  
Living, flaming beauty, rising from a clod!  
The preacher talked about Him  
But the dahlias showed me God.

Louise Abney

(Sent to Mr. Frank Payne, by the author, after seeing his dahlia fields in bloom.)

Thank you, Miss Abney. Visit our dahlia show again. You are mighty welcome.

"Say It With Flowers"

## DAHLIA NEWS

Issued now and then as the spirit moves in the interest of Dahlias and other garden flowers.

THE FRANK PAYNE FARMS

Shawnee, Kansas  
FRANK PAYNE, Editor  
VOL. 2 FALL, 1930 NO. 1

### A Flower Lover's Story

Relates a Story and Tells How Easy It Is to Raise Flowers

By Frank Payne  
In The Kansas Farmer

Here's a story that will interest folks who love flowers. Many, many years ago over in Ireland a good lady planted some rose bushes alongside her neighbor's fence. This neighbor had a donkey, one of those ornery, mean donkeys. During the night he reached over the fence and ate the tops from part of the bushes. Some of them he couldn't reach. The next morning the dear old Irish lady, the one who planted and loved roses, almost had three fits. She thought sure that donkey had ruined part of her rose bushes. But time taught a different story. A few weeks later the bushes the donkey had chewed the tops from had put out a new, vigorous growth and were loaded with beautiful large blooms. The bushes the donkey couldn't reach had only a few small, ordinary blooms, not nearly so large and pretty.

That's how folks found out roses must be pruned when first planted. I guess the moral of the story is: "Even a hungry Irish donkey can teach folks something about growing flowers." Now when you buy rose bushes from your nurseryman be sure to cut the tops off, just leaving little stubs. The roots will get established quickly and soon produce a new growth. Your best blooms come from new growth.

Did you ever drive past a home and notice how beautiful it looked when a lot of old fashioned flowers were all around the house and in bloom? Made you feel as if you wanted to go in and visit. You knew they must be nice folks or they wouldn't love flowers. Flowers are a good investment, not an expense. A few dimes or a dollar spent for flowers to plant around your home will add fully \$100 to the sale value, and to its beauty. It makes no difference about the age of the house. Flowers are just as pretty around an old house as a new one.

There are lots of flowers easily grown in Kansas. They don't ask petting or scientific care—just plant keep the weeds pulled out and hoe a little once in a while, "when you are resting." The easiest flowers to grow are those from bulbs. It soon will be time to plant Gladiolus. I call them Glads for short. I will plant 10 acres this year—they do fine for us here in Kansas. Do you know the old-fashioned, common name for Glads? An elderly lady from Belgium told me they called them "The Twelve Apostles," back in the old country. I guess because they average about 12 blooms to a spike. No doubt the spike represents Jesus, as the blooms are closely attached to the spike, same as the Apostles were to Him.

Do you know that Glads can be planted so you can have bloom all summer and fall? Here's how we do it. Make the first planting just as soon as one can work the soil in the spring. The last three years that date has been about March 15. Plant 6 inches deep so a late freeze won't reach the bulbs. As soon as they come up, make another planting. When the second planting is up make a third. A last planting can be made June 25, in Kansas. Last year we had bloom from June 20 to October 29. Glads must be planted in a sunny spot.

Sometimes right where you want to plant flowers you will have too much shade and cannot plant the kinds that must have sunshine.

However, there are flowers that you can grow in shady spots if such is your only planting space. A few beautiful ones that come to my mind just now are Tulips, Lily of the Valley, Columbine, Bleeding Heart and Hardy Phlox. These can be grown in partial shade. If you have a hot sunny spot, say on the south side of the house, you can plant sun loving flowers such as Iris, Day Lilies, Cacti, Coreopsis, Hardy Chrysanthemums and Kansas Gay Feather.

I grow 20 acres of dahlias on my farm near Shawnee, a suburb 10 miles southwest of Kansas City. That ought to prove how much I love them. After we have had so many summer flowers, we welcome a change. And dahlias are rightly called the "Queen of Autumn Flowers." Lots of folks tell me dahlias are difficult to grow in Kansas. I haven't found them so. They are as easily grown as corn or potatoes. Just plant them at the right time, hoe often and you will be well repaid with a wealth of glorious blooms all fall until killing frosts come. Folks who have had failures with Dahlias in Kansas can turn failure into success if they try to grow them this year in that way.

Dahlias enjoy sunshine and should be planted in beds in your open garden. Do not plant in the shade or on the north side of buildings. They must not be planted until after May 1, in Kansas.

Grow flowers! Grow more flowers! Practice the gospel of beauty to all about you. Allow your friends allow your fellow men, allow even your enemies to enjoy your flowers, and all will be drawn nearer to one another and to the Creator. We pass this way only once. Let us beautify the path as we go, so that the world may see which way we went.

The author of this article, Frank Payne, is an expert in growing flowers. Here he tells you what plants and flowers will grow and how to grow them. And he is giving you facts he has learned thru nine years of experience growing flowers in Kansas. He assures you beyond doubt that you, too, can have a beautiful farmstead with very little expense and a minimum of labor.

Mr. Payne even agrees to answer questions you may have. If you wish to reach him, simply address him at Shawnee, Kansas, stating that you read his article in Kansas Farmer.

### "Say It With Flowers"

#### Dahlia Blossoms

Written for Frank Payne Farms  
By Irene Lois Cowans

When the chilling winds of autumn,  
In the branches of the trees,  
Play a wild and mournful music  
As the soul of summer flees;  
Then our hearts are torn with longing  
For the splendors which are gone,  
Till we thrill with exultation  
As a dahlia bloom is born.

All the flowers of the springtime  
Lying mutely pale in death,  
May no longer charm our fancies  
With their bright ephemeral breath;  
But the sorrow of the season  
Is forgotten in the sight  
Of the many colored blossoms  
Of the dahlias rare delight.

They are nodding in the sunlight,  
As the breezes kiss each bloom;  
And with all enchanting beauty,  
Carry cheer into the gloom  
Of the hours when shadows lengthen,  
And o'er'take the day too soon.  
They are treasures of lost heavens  
From the ecstasy of June.

And their brilliant petals flaunting  
A brave banner to the sky,  
In a glorious, calm defiance  
Of the year's command to die,  
Make our hearts look up in wonder  
At the majesty of God;  
Who is teaching us in fables,  
With the dahlias from the sod.

## How to Care for Dahlia Bulbs

Easy to Keep as Potatoes

**T**HE care of the dahlia bulb after the frost has killed the plant is a most important feature of dahlia raising. It is very often overlooked, because the average person feels that the bulbs are in a dormant condition and you cannot hurt them. This is far from the case, however, and the growth the following year depends entirely on what you do during the winter months.

As soon as the frost has killed the top of the plant, it should be cut off close to the ground. Never more than six or eight inches above the crown. The clump should then be dug up carefully, so as not to injure or separate. The dirt clinging to the clump should not be disturbed.

### Never Separate in the Fall

The trouble most people have in dahlia raising starts right now. The first thing they do is to knock off the dirt and pull the clump apart to see how many bulbs they have for planting next year. This sort of treatment has but one result and that is failure.

The entire clump with the dirt still clinging should be moved carefully to the storage place.

This can be the basement, fruit cellar or some other place where the atmosphere is right. The bulbs must not be kept in freezing temperature or where it is too dry. If the cellar is too warm, or too dry, they can be stored in boxes or barrels of sand or sawdust, but be sure the storage material is perfectly dry, so that rot will not set in and ruin the entire mass.

### Place Clumps Upside Down

This seems like silly advise. At first thought it would appear that the top or bottom of the bulb or clump would not be affected when the bulbs are dormant. It happens however that there is an acid like sap in the stalk which runs out when the clump is upside down. When the clump stands upright this acid or sap runs into the bulbs and rots them. Little things like this have a great deal to do with the life of the plant the following year.

If these few simple rules have been followed you should have no trouble in keeping your harvest until the next spring planting season.

### Dividing Clumps in Spring

The clumps should be started in growth so that the location of the eyes can be seen before cutting. This can be accomplished by putting the clumps in a warm moist place without soil for a short time.

As soon as the growth appears the clump can be cut apart with a sharp knife, in such a way that a piece of the stem with the budding eyes is attended to each root. This is very important as the bulb can not send out shoots by itself. Without these eyes the plant will not grow.

If the dahlia makes roots of excessive size, many growers recommend cutting off part of the individual root, because there is no advantage or benefit to the young plant if the root is too large and there is greater advantage in having the roots of uniform size.

One peculiar thing about dahlias is that the little varieties have extra large bulbs while the larger flower types have very small bulbs. Some times these little bulbs are thin and apparently lacking in strength but it is just the way the plants run.

### Classification of Dahlias

With the approach of dahlia shows over the country, the subject of the classification of this flower becomes of major importance again, for controversies invariably arise at every show as to whether a given bloom belongs in one class or another.

These are by authority of the American Dahlia Society.

**Single**—Open-centered flowers, with only one row of ray florets, regardless of form or number of florets. For example, Newport Wonder, Fugi San, Eckford Century, Coltness Gem.

**Anemone**—Open-centered flowers, with only one row of ray florets, regardless of form or number of the florets, with the tubular disc florets elongated, forming a pincushion effect. For example, Ada Finch.

**Collarette**—Open-centered flowers, with only one row of ray florets, with the addition of one or more rows of petaloids, usually of a different color, forming a collar around the disc. For example, Diaden, San Mateo Star, Ami Nonin, Geant de Lyon.

**Duplex**—Open-centered flowers with only two rows of ray florets, regardless of form or number of florets. For example, Golden Sunshine, Mme. J. Coissard.

**Peony**—Open-centered flowers, with not more than three rows of ray florets, regardless of form or number of florets, with the addition of smaller curled or twisted floral rays around the disc. For example, Geisha, Gorgeous, City of Portland.

**Incurved cactus**—Fully double flowers, with the margins of the majority of the floral rays revolute for one-half or more of their length, the floral rays tending to curve toward the center of the flowers. For example, F. W. Fellows, Bevelaws Farncot.

**Recurved and straight cactus**—Fully double flowers, with the margins of the majority of the floral rays revolute for one-

half of their length or more, the floral rays being recurved or straight. For example, Ambassador.

**Semi-cactus**—Fully double flowers, with the margins of the majority of the floral rays revolute for less than one-half of their length. For example, Edna Ferber, Francis Lobdell, Sunkiss, Alice Whittier.

**Formal decorative**—Fully double flowers, with the margins of the floral rays slightly or not at all revolute, floral rays generally broad, either pointed or rounded at tips, with outer floral rays tending to recurve and central floral rays tending to be cupped; all floral rays in a somewhat regular arrangement. For example, Sagamore, Jersey's Beauty, Regal, Glory of Monmouth, Trentonian, Mrs. I. de Ver Warner, Judge Marcan.

**Informal decorative**—Fully double flowers, with margins of the floral rays slightly or not at all revolute, floral rays generally long, twisted or pointed, and usually irregular in arrangement. For example, Fort Monmouth, Jane Cowl, Barbara Redfern, Mrs. Alfred B. Seal, Insulinde, Kathleen Norris.

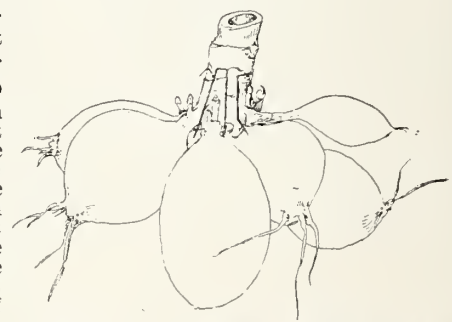
**Miniature decorative**—Fully double flowers, with margins of the floral rays slightly or not at all revolute, conforming to the definitions of either the formal or informal decorative types, and less than three inches in diameter. For example, Little Jewel.

**Ball**—Fully double flowers, ball-shaped or slightly flattened, floral rays in spiral arrangement, blunt or rounded at tips and quilled or with markedly involute margins, the flowers two inches or more in diameter. For example, Deer's White, Frank Smith, King of Shaws.

**Pompon**—Having same characteristics as Ball dahlias, but less than two inches in diameter. For example, Belle of Springfield, Nerissa.



A Single Dahlia bulb showing the appearance of a healthy tuber



A clump before cutting showing how to cut to be sure each bulb has necessary eyes

# Beautify Your Home With Tulips

Last May when you saw such beautiful tulips blooming around so many nice homes no doubt you declared you would plant some around your home. That's fine—you sure can beautify your home with tulips. Remember you must plant tulips this fall before the ground freezes hard or you will not enjoy them next spring.

We have grown tulips many years and find that the May flowering types do best around greater Kansas City. They are the Darwin, Breeder and Cottage types. Some may wonder the difference in the above three types. Darwins are the tall, bright, solid color tulips blooming about April 25 to May 10. They are 28 to 36 inches in height. The Breeders are not so tall, only 20 to 30 inches high. They bloom May 1 to 15th. Most Breeders are of the two-tone, peculiar shades of bronze, brown, purple and gold. The cottage types bloom latest, May 10 to 20th. They are not as tall as the Breeders, growing from 15 to 24 inches in height. The Cottage tulips are mostly of the light, pastel shades of pink, yellow and white.

While we grow more than 150 varieties in our test gardens, yet some varieties seem to do better than others that are admired by most visitors. In the Darwins the most popular varieties are: Pride of Haarlem, dark red. Farncombe Sanders, bright scarlet. Clara Butt, rosy pink. Rev. Ewbank, lavender. Wm. Copeland, helitrope. Valentine, blue violet. Zula, almost black. The most popular Breeders are: Louis XIV, purple and gold. Bronze Queen, bronze. Panorama, reddish mahogany. Cardinal Manning, purple and bronze. These varieties of Cottage types most popular are: John Ruskin, apricot. Inglescombe Yellow, some times called a yellow Darwin. Picotte, white with carmine edge. La Merville, a light orange, is sweet scented like the odor of crab apple blossoms.

Tulips are easy to grow. All their strength is stored up in the bulb so that drought or cold weather does not stop them from blooming. Plant in the fall and LEAVE THEM IN THE GROUND IN THE SAME PLACE FOR THREE YEARS! You do not have to dig them up each year unless you should wish to change their location. You can grow tulips in many places where other flowers would not bloom. They can be planted in front of shrubs, around small trees, in partial shade, around buildings or in beds in your flower garden. The only place tulips cannot grow is in wet, soggy ground where water stands. Plant them eight inches deep and six inches apart for best results. After tulips bloom and the tops die down, you can sow flower seed or plant dahlias right over them and get two crops of flowers from the same space without harming or moving the tulip bulbs in anyway. If your soil is a heavy, soggy clay, mix plenty of sand with



"Tiptoe Thru The Tulips"

Miss Maxine Payne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Payne, in her father's tulip garden near Shawnee, Kansas.

it. Raise the bed in the center to allow for quick drainage of heavy rains. Never put any fertilizer or manures around, about, or over tulip bulbs—it is liable to rot the bulbs. If you are sure your soil needs fertilizer, put it on the year previous to planting. Do not be stingy in planting tulips. There are several reasons. They are not a bit expensive when you divide their cost over the three years of bloom you get from them. Re-

member that when your tulips bloom, no other flowers are in season. They have to carry the entire decoration of your home alone and will look much better if planted in masses. Using all one color around your home will make the best showing. More than two million tulips are planted around homes in Greater Kansas City and that sure helps to beautify the city in springtime. Are you doing your share to beautify your own home?

## Tulip Prices

We grow 20,000 tulips in our show garden, more than 150 varieties. Come to our show about May first—you will certainly enjoy it. We get a shipment of bulbs each year from Holland and can offer you Darwin, Breeder and Cottage types at only 75 cents per dozen or \$6.00 hundred, postage prepaid. The bulbs arrive about October tenth and you can plant them from that time until the ground freezes hard. Send us your order today. Address:

FRANK PAYNE, Shawnee, Kansas.

## Peony Prices

We grow an acre of peonies for cut flowers for Decoration Day. They must be planted in the fall, never in the spring. Can furnish good 3 to 5 eye divisions in the Red, White or Pink at 3 for \$1.00 or \$3.00 a dozen, postpaid. (\$20.00 hundred not prepaid.) We also have some special select varieties. Ask for our colored circular.

## SPOT OF BEAUTY

### Frank Payne's Dahlia Farm Attracts Visitors the Year Round

On the outskirts of Kansas City lies a flower bed which is truthfully the garden spot of Johnson County. In Dahlia blooming time when the hundreds of thousands of blooming flowers shine out on the Frank Payne Dahlia Farm, one-half mile south of Shawnee, Kansas on U. S. Highway 50, then truly is all the world a paradise.

Unless one has visited the Payne Dahlia Farm when it is all aglow, either at tulip time in the Spring when a hundred thousand dot the sloping acres east of the big roomy, stone house, or in the fall when a hundred thousand dahlias and as many gladioli paint the landscape, it is quite difficult to even comprehend the beauty of the farm.

Visitors are always welcome at the Payne Dahlia Farm, and are shown about the place with the utmost courtesy. One drives in from the highway and parks the car in the circle before the house and either Mr. and Mrs. Payne or their son and daughter greet you and act as your host while visiting the flower gardens. First, however, one cannot overlook the long rambling stone house, which was built many years ago of native stone, and today, although modernized, still has much of its pioneer beauty.

The next place to visit is the test garden on the Payne Dahlia Farm, which is perhaps one of the most interesting places on the farm. Here Dahlia bulbs from all over the United States are grown and tested as to which flower does the best in this climate. Many varieties do well on either the eastern or western coast which do not do well here, and in this test garden, which has over 300 varieties, Mr. Payne spends over \$1,000.00 a year finding the varieties which grow well here.

One variety of dahlia, "The Queen of The Garden Beautiful," has a very interesting story which Mr. Payne tells. Once upon a time a prisoner in the San Quentin Prison in California was working in the flower gardens of the prison. A priest passing by handed the prisoner a dahlia bulb. The prisoner spent much time with the flower with the result that it is one of the most beautiful now grown. The prisoner is now released and owns a dahlia farm of his own.

Further on toward the creek, we are surrounded by dahlias and gladioli, not a few of them but literally thousands of them, waving in the breeze like waves on a lake. For a brief moment one is fairly intoxicated by the sublime beauty of the landscape and to think that some few years ago there was not a flower to be seen,—and now to see so many flowers.

There are many beautiful gardens in Johnson County, but so few where visitors are welcome as at the Payne Flower Gardens. Of course if one wishes to buy bulbs or flowers, one may do so, but a guest is a guest at Payne's Flower Gardens, whether one buys or not.

It was getting a bit late in the afternoon when Mr. Payne and I returned to the house. Flowers, flowers, everywhere. No wonder Mr. Payne is in the flower business. A man who likes flowers as well as he does couldn't very well be in any other business.

However, one must never think that all the Paynes have to do is to stand out in the garden and smell posies. It is a very busy place with orders to fill which come in from all over the United States, telephone orders for flowers, and cutting flowers. And besides on Sundays when the flowers are in bloom and thousands of people come to visit the gardens and on special days such as the day when all the children from the Gillis Home in Kansas City come out and visit for the day, or the day for shut-ins when various civic clubs over the county bring shut-ins from all over the community for a day in the beautiful gardens.

How few business firms are able to combine beauty and thoughtfulness of others as does Mr. Payne in his flower gardens. P. D.

"Say It With Flowers"

## Peony Lore

"Don't plant peony bulbs without separating. It is just as useless to expect a clump of transplanted peony bulbs to blossom as it is to have a corn crop from an ear of corn", said Mr. Frank Payne to the Civic and Garden club.

Other hints which were given might be useful to any gardener at present or later. Separate the bulbs not less than in three or more than five in a clump. Plant so that the eyes are two inches below the surface. The bulbs will have more opportunity for growth if they are planted in soil which has previously been thoroughly cultivated and well soaked with rain. Although peonies may be transplanted successfully in the Spring to assure blooms the following season any time from the middle of September to the middle of October is the proper date. Mr. Payne warned the members who were present particularly to be care-

ful that no additional fertilizer should be placed around the roots. His reason was to the fact that the soil was too rich and consequently in sending out the little rootlets, they are burned.—The Johnson County Farm Bureau Notes.

## MAY PEONIES AT SHOW

### Cold Storage Has Kept Flowers Fresh for Olathe Picnic

Fifty peony buds placed in cold storage May 13 will be a part of the flower show in connection with the old settlers' picnic today at Olathe.

The peonies were stored by Frank Payne, Shawnee flower grower as an experiment. They are in a good state of preservation and the leaves were as fresh and firm as the day they were picked.

For nearly four months the buds had been kept at a temperature of 34 degrees above zero. Mr. Payne has many other buds in storage. He is hoping to keep some until Christmas.—From K. C. Star, Sept. 6 issue.

# Retail List of Dahlia Varieties and Prices

Send no money! Buy the Frank Payne way. We gladly trust flower lovers. We will enter your order, ship bulbs at proper planting time by mail, prepaid at our expense. A bill will be sent you after you receive bulbs and you can then mail us your check. Isn't that just as fair and square as can be? You couldn't ask for a fairer or better offer than that. (D) means Decorative type. (C) Cactus, (H.C.) Hybrid Cactus. (P) Peony flowered and (S) show.

### Special Notice

The ones marked with star (\*) in front of the name of variety are the kinds we grow many acres of. We also have reports from our customers telling us how wonderful those varieties do for them too. For the above reasons we specially recommend them as satisfactory varieties for you to order.

- \*Mrs. I. D. Ver Warner—(D), mauve helitrope, Per Bulb \$ .75
- \*Jean Kerr—(D), pure white, per Bulb .50
- \*Kitty Dunlap—(D), cerise, Per Bulb 1.00
- Perfect Beauty—(P), red and white variegated Per Bulb 1.00
- Sunset Glow—(C), orange and yellow Per Bulb .50
- San Meto—(D), red and yellow variegated Per Bulb 1.00
- C. D. Anderson—(S) purplish crimson .50
- Purple Manitou—(D), royal purple Per Bulb .50
- Bashful Giant—(D), apricot and gold Per Bulb 1.00
- Edna Spencer—(C), lavender, Per Bulb 1.00
- \*Yellow Duke—(S), canary yellow Per Bulb .35
- Halo—(D), Sulphur yellow, Per Bulb 2.00
- Mariposa—(H.C.) orchid pink, Per Bulb 1.00
- \*Jersey Beacon—(D), Chinese scarlet, Per Bulb 2.00
- White Swan—(S), white, Per Bulb .25
- Washington City—(H.C.), snow white Per Bulb .50

- \*Mina Kay—(P), oriental scarlet Per Bulb 1.50
- \*Maude Adams—(S), white overlaid lavender pink .25
- \*Pride of California—(D), dark red Per Bulb .35
- \*Champagne—(D), pinkish chamois Per Bulb 1.50
- Jane Hall—(D), yellow, Per Bulb 1.00
- Patrick O'Mara—(D), orange buff Per Bulb 1.00
- \*Queen of the Garden Beautiful—(D), primrose yellow, Per Bulb 5.00
- Mordella—(D), amber buff, Per Bulb 1.00
- World's Best White—(D) pure white Per Bulb 1.00
- Insulinda—(D), golden orange, Per Bulb 1.00
- Pride of Can Francisco—(D), pink and gold, Per Bulb 1.00
- Margaret Woodrow Wilson—(D), light lavender pink, Per Bulb 2.00
- D. M. Moore—(D) velvety black maroon, Per Bulb .50
- Fort Monmouth—(D), Claret wine Per Bulb 10.00
- \*Papillon—(H.C.) Old rose and gold Per Bulb 1.00
- Couronne D'Or—(D) Bronze, apricot and gold Per Bulb 1.50
- Edna Ferber—(H.C.), coral and old old gold, Per Bulb 5.00
- Pride of Ft. Morgan—(D), crimson Per Bulb 5.00
- Jane Cowl—(D), salmon bronze Per Bulb 5.00
- Sylvia Dickey—(D), lavender, Per Bulb 1.00
- Howard Wright—(D), deep lavender, Per Bulb 1.00
- Elsie Burgess—(S) lavender pink .35
- Minute Man—(D), scarlet and white variegated, Per Bulb 1.00
- Hoppe Moddle—(D) bronze, Per Bulb 1.00
- Claudiatice—(P), pink and cream Per Bulb 1.00
- Amityville—(D), lavender, Per Bulb 1.00

### Hardy Perennials

- Delphinium, Dark Blue, Light Blue or English hybrids, 3 plants \$1.00
- Tritoma, (Red Hot Poker), 3 plants \$1.00
- Budleia, (Butterfly Bush or Summer Lilac), 3 plants \$1.00
- Hardy Phlox, 21 varieties, all colors, 3 plants \$1.00
- Hermocillis (Orange Day Lily), 3 plants \$1.00

(We Pay the Postage)

- American Beauty—(D), dark red Per Bulb .50
- Avalon (D),—chrome yellow, Per Bulb 1.00
- Rosalind—(D), bright rose, Per Bulb 5.00
- Peace—(D), white, Per Bulb 1.00
- Verna Winchell—(D), Sulphur white Per Bulb 1.00
- Jenny Wren—(D), Old rose, Per Bulb 1.00
- Aurore Lee—(D), reddish bronze Per Bulb 1.00
- Purple Glory—(D), purple, Per Bulb 2.00
- Corona—(Minature Dec.) white Per Bulb .50
- Betty Lou Isham—(D), rose, Per Bulb 1.00
- Roman Beauty—(D), pink and white, Per Bulb 1.00
- 4 F Gorgeous—(D), Violet, Per Bulb 1.00
- Isabel Street—(D), lavender pink Per Bulb 1.00
- Darlene—(D), pink and white, Per Bulb .35
- Dakota—(D), copper, Per Bulb .50
- Venus—(D), lavender, Per Bulb 1.00
- Mrs. George Stump—(D), bronze and yellow Per Bulb 1.00
- A. D. Livoni—(S), lavender pink Per Bulb .35

### Pom Pon Dahlias

of the show type less than two inches in diameter. They are very useful for table decorations or in small baskets. Pom Pons keep four or five days when cut. The bulbs are only 35 cents each and here is a list of 27 good varieties so you will have no trouble in making selections.

- Midget—old rose
- Rosalia—yellow, tipped red
- Clara Harsh—deep rose
- Clarissa—pale primrose
- Catherine—bright yellow
- Little Johnny—red
- Kleine Dometa—orange buff
- Little Jewell (Minature Decorative) pink
- Marguerite—mauve
- Blush Gem—rose
- Fashion—orange
- Pride—dark red
- Sunset Glowing—orange
- Sunbeam—scarlet
- Daybreak—white, tipped lavender
- Little Loyd—amber orange
- Winnie Winkle—white and lavender
- Fascination—pink and lavender
- Graus Aus Wein—old rose
- Bobby—purple
- Belle of Springfield—red
- Prince Charming—cream tipped purple
- Guiding Star—white
- Mary Justine—Pink and white
- George Ireland—bright lavender
- Jewell—red and white
- Janet—golden bronze

### We Wholesale Dahlia Bulbs

If you wish bulbs in lots of fifty or more, we will gladly quote you wholesale prices if you will send us a list of your needs. We ship bulbs all over the United States and Canada to florists and flower growers to be used for cut flowers, also to the large seed stores and mail order houses. Give us a chance to figure with you and we can not only save you money but furnish some mighty good bulbs too.

NOTICE:—We have many more varieties than those listed above. If you are looking for something else, tell us—we probably have exactly what you want but space does not permit listing all we grow.

### Special Amateurs Collection

If my own grandmother asked me, "Frank, tell me the seven best dahlias that are easiest for amateur flower growers to grow," here is the list I would recommend.

- Mrs. I. D. Ver Warner—(D), mauve helitrope
- Jean Kerr—(D) pure white
- Pride of California—(D) dark red
- Maude Adams—(S), white overlaid lavender pink
- Jersey Beauty—(D) true pink
- Yellow Duke—(S), canary yellow
- Cigarette—(H.C.), scarlet, tipped white

That list figures up exactly \$4.20 retail. As a special offer you may have them post-paid for only \$3.98 and they are a bargain too. Just order the "\$3.98 Amateur Collection" today and they will be sent you at proper planting time. Your entire satisfaction is guaranteed or your money back. That ought to prove what we think of those varieties when we stand back of them that way.

- \*Cigarette—(H. C.) Scarlet tipped white, Per Bulb 1.00
- Bronze Beauty—(S) bronze, Per Bulb .35
- Hoosier King—(D), salmon, Per Bulb 1.00
- \*Mrs. Carl Salbach—(D), lavender Per Bulb .75
- \*Amun Ra—(D), copper, per Bulb 1.00
- Harvard—(D), crimson red, Per Bulb 1.50
- Bonnie Blue—(S), violet blue, Per Bulb .50
- Jersey King—(D), carmine, Per Bulb 1.50
- \*Sagamore—(D), golden yellow Per Bulb 1.00
- \*Jersey Beauty—(D), true pink Per Bulb 1.00

- Sampson—(D), reddish bronze, Per Bulb 1.00
- Oyster Bay Beauty—(D), dark velvety red, Per Bulb 2.00
- Mrs. J. Harrison Dick—(D), citron yellow, Per Bulb .35
- Countess of Lonsdale—(C), salmon Per Bulb .35
- Roycroft—(C), buff, Per Bulb 1.00
- \*Marmion—(D), golden yellow, Per Bulb 5.00
- \*Paul Michael—(D), orange buff, Per Bulb 1.00
- The Grizzly—(D), Maroon crimson Per Bulb 1.00
- Gold Medal—(S), yellow and red Per Bulb .50
- Yellow Colosse—(S), canary yellow Per Bulb .50
- Queen of the Market—(D), red and white Per Bulb 1.00
- Florence Finger—(D), lavender rose pink Per Bulb 1.00
- \*Judge Marean—(D) red and gold Per Bulb 1.00
- Jack Rose—(D), wine red, Per Bulb .25
- Leo Niesen—(D), cardinal, Per Bulb 1.00

### Special Offer

On all orders for ten dollars' worth of dahlia bulbs, one kind or assorted, we will include one rare variety as a surprise with our compliments. This will be marked so you can plant it and watch for results.

Mail or Phone Your Order at Once to

## FRANK PAYNE FARMS

Telephone Shawnee 1346

Shawnee, Kansas